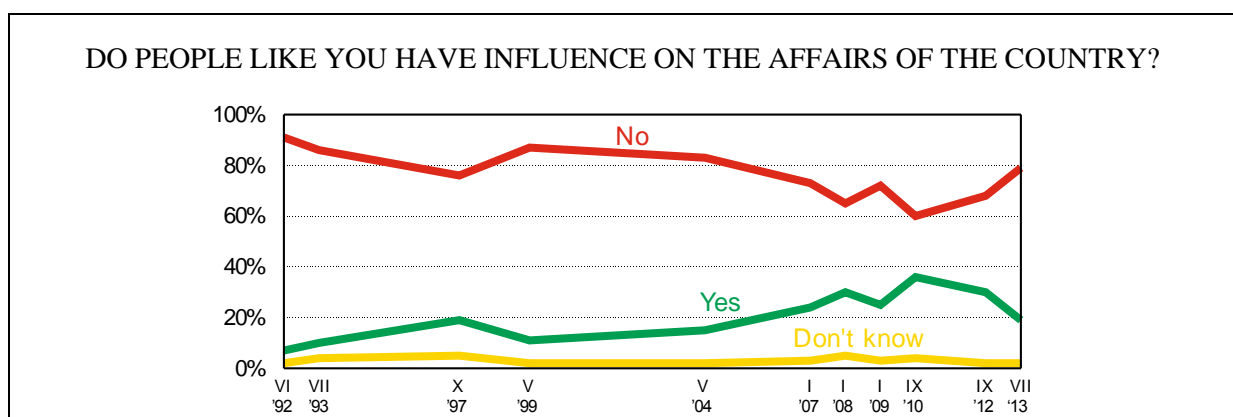


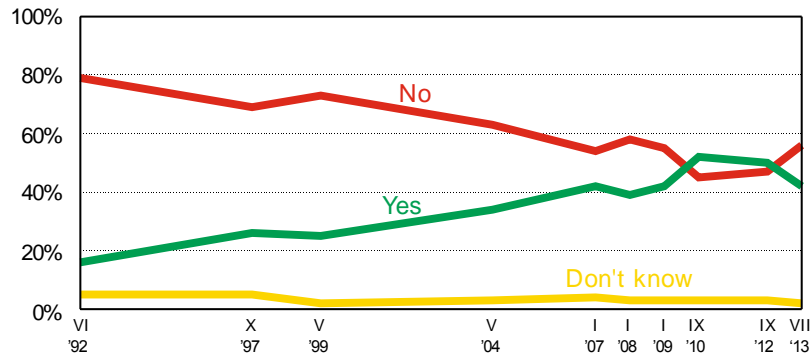
SUBJECTIVE INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The subjective influence on the affairs of the country continuously rose from the beginning of the systemic change until 2008. In the years 2009-2012 between one-fourth and one-third of respondents felt empowered, which meant a substantial improvement relative to the 1992-1999 period. However, in recent years the proportion of people convinced that citizens can influence the political decisions declined markedly. At present, 19% of Poles (an 11-point drop from 2012) think that they have influence on public life in the country.



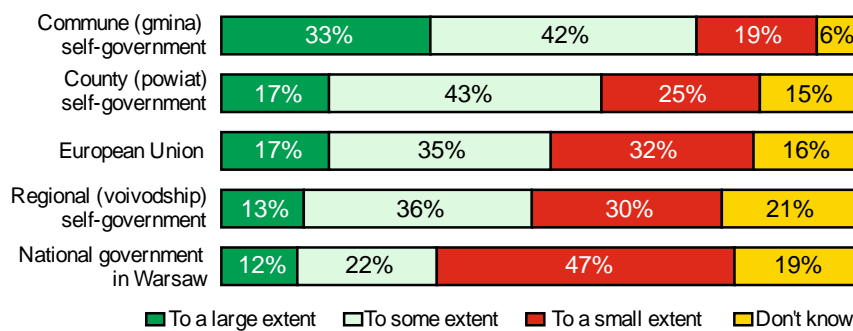
Recently there has also been a decline in the perceived influence on the public affairs on the local level. However, the drop was not as steep as on the national level. At present, the subjective influence on local affairs is significantly higher than in the 1990s. It is on the same level as in 2007-2009. Over two-fifths declare having influence on their town or village.

DO PEOPLE LIKE YOU HAVE INFLUENCE ON THE AFFAIRS OF THEIR TOWN OR VILLAGE?



In public opinion, local development depends primarily on the self-government of the commune (gmina), indicated by 75% as having a significant role. The second level (powiat) self-government is mentioned by 60% of respondents. Over half (52%) appreciate the influence of the European Union on the situation of the locality. Almost half (49%) mention regional (voivodship) self-government, while one-third (34%) see the role of the national government. Attributing bigger influence to the EU than the Warsaw government is probably driven by the perception of the importance of the investment co-financed by the EU funds for the local development.

TO WHAT EXTENT DOES THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR PLACE OF RESIDENCE DEPEND ON...



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Subjective influence on public affairs"*, September 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: July 2013, N=1005. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.